

“Wall and Partition Construction and Method

Using Hat-Channel Members”

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5    [0056] An improved wall and partition construction method that is more time and cost efficient to construct than conventional methods, and that includes no exterior attachment means, thus providing a finished wall with a substantially seemless first and second surface. The improved wall is constructed by attaching rigid panels to a series of channel members each having a hat-shaped cross section generally placed in vertical orientation,

10   along the centerline of a wall. Each channel member includes a plurality of openings that provide an interior pathway for routing utility and communication cables, and/or for containing supplemental insulation. Compressed straw panels are attached to the channel members in a slightly offset alternating manner such that each panel can be rigidly connected to a channel member by a plurality of lag screws with each penetrating the

15   panel from the inside such that the finished wall has no exterior penetrations.